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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

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TO: THE SECRETARY
FROM: EA - John H. Holdridge *AKO*
SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Chinese Vice Premier Bo Yibo

I. SUMMARY

The Chinese have arranged a meeting with Vice Premier Bo, whom you met in New York in September 1980 when Bo headed the Chinese delegation to the first annual US-China Joint Economic Committee meeting. The focus of your meeting with Bo will be on US-China bilateral economic relations.

II. SETTING

Your meeting with Bo comes before your meeting with Premier Zhao. It will be a useful opportunity to foreshadow the economic matters you plan to raise with Zhao.

III. ISSUES

You may wish to indicate to Bo that, in the context of resuming momentum in our bilateral relationship, we attach great importance to scheduling the second annual US-China Joint Economic Committee (JEC) meeting in Beijing in the Fall. The JEC can continue the fruitful dialogue begun last September on financial relations and each government's economic policies. Treasury Secretary Regan will head the US delegation.

You may also wish to note that President Reagan recently decided to propose the creation of a US-China Trade and Commerce Commission, to be headed on the US side by Commerce Secretary Baldrige. This forum will be able to deal more effectively with commercial issues.

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previously handled in the JEC, such as trade development, industrial cooperation, business facilitation, economic data exchange and the opening of government trade offices in each other's territory. We hope the Chinese government will agree to this proposal.

It would be useful to set the dates for both committees as early as possible. This will allow both governments to do the preparatory work in a manner that will make the meetings between our economic planners most productive.

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